



WILBUR D. MAY ARBORETUM AND BOTANICAL GARDEN

# Composting 101

## Greens (Nitrogen)

- Food scraps
- Vegetable scraps
- Fruit wastes
- Coffee grounds
- Tea bags/leaves
- Fresh grass clippings
- Other garden waste (flowers, stalks, plants)
- Chicken/livestock manure

## Prohibited Items

- Meat
- Fish
- Poultry
- Bones
- Milk products
- Oil
- Pet manures
- Diseased/insect infested plants
- Glossy paper

## Browns (Carbon)

- Leaves
- Woody chips and twigs
- Shredded newspaper
- Nut shells
- Brown paper bags
- TP and paper towel rolls
- Crushed eggshells
- Cereal boxes
- String/cotton thread

## Help

- Ideal ratio is 2/3 brown to 1/3 green
- Too much Nitrogen = Smelly Compost
- Too much Carbon = Won't break down

### NEEDS

- Adequate air
- Adequate moisture
- Move material around every few days